THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Share of nuclear power in the total power production in the world is about 16%. It is 78% in France, 20% in USA and 19% in UK.

(c) India's share of nuclear power generation is about 3%.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) At present 14 reactors with an installed capacity of 2770 MWe are in operation. Fifteenth reactor-Unit 4 with 540 MWe of Tarapur Atomic Power Project has been synchronized to the grid on 4.6.04 and is expected to commence commercial operation in August 2005. Apart from this, 8 more reactors are under various stages of construction. On completion of these Projects, the capacity will be augmented to 7280 MWe by 2011.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) Does not arise.

Funds allocated for Atomic Power Plants

†2513. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to set up Atomic Power Plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be allocated by Government for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Work on setting up of nine nuclear power reactors is going on in full swing.

(b) The details are:

Sl. No.	State	No. of reactors	Capacity in MWe
1.	Maharashtra	2	1080*
2.	Rajasthan	2	440
3.	Karnataka	2	440
4.	Tamil Nadu	3	2500

*TAPP Unit-4 (540 MWe) in Maharashtra has been connected to grid on 4.6.2005 and expected to commence commercial operation in August, 2005.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The completion cost of the above nine reactors is Rs. 29,542 crore.

Synthetic Rutile plant at Chavara

2514. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of Joint Venture proposal of IREL, NMDC and KSIDC for setting up a synthetic Rutile plant at Chavara, Kollam District;

(b) whether application of IREL for extension of mining lease for 20 years to ensure required raw material for the project has been approved by the Kerala Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether KMML has agreed for the tie-up with the project for using the Synthetic Rutile as feed stock for their TiO2 pigment expansion; and

(e) in not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) has conducted a market survey through as Australian Company. The projected market potential for Synthetic Rutile being not very encouraging, NMDC is exploring the possibility of advance sales tie up before taking up test work and preparation of project report. Since the market demand for Synthetic Rutile is lacking, no further progress has been achieved.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government of Kerala is awaiting the project report on the setting up of the Joint Venture with NMDC, before taking a decision on extension of mining lease in favour of IREL in Blocks VI and VIII.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) KMML is pursuing its own programme.